

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 18-54 are currently pending.

By this Amendment, claims 18-28 and 32-47 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 18-47 would be pending.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 18-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,994,926) in view of either Marshall (U.S. Patent No. 6,396,597). Claims 18-47 have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Teramura et al. ("Experimental Facsimile Communication System on Packet Switched Data Network" IEEE Transactions on Communications, Vol. 29, Issue 12, Dec. 1981) and further in view of Marshall. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections of the claims for the reasons set forth below.

1. Claims 18, 28 and 38

Claim 18, as amended, is directed to an arrangement including a determining unit adapted to determine whether a predetermined time has been reached or not. Further, the transmission unit, in the first mode, transmits one by one information representing the notification results corresponding to each of receivers by the notification unit regardless of a determination by the determining unit, and in the second mode, transmits collectively the

information representing the notification results for by the notification unit at the time when the determining unit determines that the predetermined time has been reached.

Thus, as recited in amended claim 18, it is possible, for example, in the first mode to transmit the notification results of the respective receivers regardless of the predetermined time, and it is also possible, for example, in the second mode to transmit collectively the notification results at the time when it is determined that the predetermined time has been reached. That is, appropriate transmission according to the respective modes can be achieved.

On the contrary, Gordon et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,994,926) discloses that the status reports are transmitted during a period of time, but does not disclose, teach and suggest the above-noted feature of claim 18, as amended, concerning the transmission of the notification result in the first and second modes.

Teramura and Marshall (U.S. Patent No. 6,396,597) also do not appear to disclose, teach and suggest the above-noted feature of claim 18.

Accordingly, claim 18 and its dependent claims are believed to be distinguishable over the cited references, individually or in combination. For similar reasons, claims 28 and 38 and their dependent claims are believed to be distinguishable over the cited references, individually or in combination.

2. Claims 22, 32 and 42

Claim 22, as amended, is directed to an arrangement including a setting unit adapted to set whether the transmission of the information representing the notification result by the transmission unit based on an instruction by the data processing apparatus side is to be permitted or not. A setting result by the setting unit is notified to the transmission side. Further,

the transmission unit does not transmit the information representing the notification result until the reception unit receives a request from the transmission side from which the data received by the reception unit was transmitted in a case where the setting unit sets the transmission is not to be permitted, and transmits the information representing the notification result even without the request from the transmission side in a case where the setting unit sets the transmission is to be permitted.

In other words, it is set whether or not to permit the transmission of the information representing the notification result based on the instruction from the own side, the information is not transmitted until the request from the transmission side is received when the setting result is notified to the transmission side and it is set not to permit the transmission, and the information is transmitted even if there is no request from the transmission side when it is set to permit the transmission.

It is possible, for example, on the transmission side to easily judge whether or not to issue the request based on the notified setting result, thereby enabling appropriate exchange of the notification result.

Gordon et al, Teramura and Marshall do not appear to disclose the above-noted feature of claim 22, as amended. Thus, claim 22 and its dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited references, individually or in combination. For similar reasons, claims 32 and 42 and their dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited references, individually or in combination.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

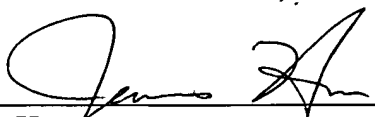
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4303US2. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4303US2. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: July 6, 2004

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